

JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION  
OF THE  
STATE OF MONTANA

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Date: October 19, 2009

To: All media organizations

From: Andrew P. Suenram, Judicial Nomination Commission secretary  
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Subject: Applicants for Justice of the Montana Supreme Court

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Eleven Montana lawyers are seeking the vacant seat on the Montana Supreme Court created by the resignation of Justice John Warner. Justice Warner is resigning effective December 31, 2009. The eleven lawyers are the following:

1. Roy Andes - Helena
2. Carlo Canty - Helena
3. Brenda Desmond - Missoula
4. JoAnn Jayne - Arlee
5. David Ortley - Kalispell
6. Karen Powell - Helena
7. Peggy Probasco - Butte
8. Jeffrey Renz - Clinton
9. John Warren - Dillon
10. Ronald Waterman - Helena
11. Mike Wheat - Bozeman

The application of each lawyer can be reviewed on the Judicial Nomination Commission website, [http://courts.mt.gov/supreme/boards/jud\\_nomination/default.mcpx](http://courts.mt.gov/supreme/boards/jud_nomination/default.mcpx).

The Judicial Nomination Commission will pare the list of applicants to not less than three and not more than five and submit the nominees to Governor Schweitzer. The Governor will appoint one applicant to the Court. The successful candidate is expected to take office in January

2010 and must run for election in November 2010 in order to serve out the remainder of Justice Warner's term which expires December 31, 2014.

Public comment is an extremely important part of the appointment process. The Judicial Nomination Commission welcomes public comment, either in writing or via telephone. Written comments become part of an applicant's file, and will be forwarded to Governor Schweitzer as part of the nomination process. Public comment will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on November 18, 2009. Please contact JNC Secretary, Andy Suenram at [asuenram@swmtlaw.com](mailto:asuenram@swmtlaw.com), (406)683-2391, P.O. Box 1366, Dillon, MT 59725, or any of the individual commissioners. Judicial Nomination Commission members are District Judge Ted Lympus of Kalispell; Shirley Ball of Nashua; Mona Charles of Kalispell; Monica Paoli of Missoula; Martha Sheehy of Billings; Andy Suenram of Dillon; and Paul Tuss of Havre.